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10/663,995

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Soon Jo Lee

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EXAMINER

GRAVINI, STEPHEN MICHAEL

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3749

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

REPLY BRIEF NOTED

In response to appellants' arguments, the reply brief is noted.

DOUTY anticipation

DOUTY discloses a panel for use in an appliance, such as a clothes dryer (column 1 line 25), which is used to control power. DOUTY discloses a laundry dryer control panel as claimed.

Appellants argue that “the terminal placed within a laundry dryer control panel and includes a back panel” is not disclosed. However, DOUTY teaches at column 1 line 25, the terminal is placed in a clothes dryer. As noted above, the panel (column 1 line 55) contains the terminal block for laundry dryer control as claimed. The disclosed *rearwardly of the panel* (column 3 line 44) expressly anticipates back panel inclusion.

The argued “wall” and “shield” are given ordinary meanings, consistent with the specification, such that DOUTY teaches the claimed and argued wall and shield. The Office is unable to give appellants a narrower meaning than claimed.

McCORMICK in view of LENNON obviousness

LENNON obviates McCORMICK as rejected, because the claimed “configured for” is construed as an intended use such that the prior art meets the claimed shielding and extending intended uses. As claimed, the back portion is not limited to a wall, only the front portion. Appellants reply brief confuses the simple structure and function disclosed in LENNON, which is obviated by that reference and discussed in the answer.

McCORMICK in view of LENNON in view of SERGEANT obviousness

Appellants correctly recognize that LENNON is the secondary reference discussed in the second obviousness rejection instead of HOPKINS. A typographical error is not a new grounds of rejection, since HOPKINS was not relied upon in the final rejection, but rather LENNON.

Mere assertion of patentability does not overcome the obviousness rejection.

Affirmed

It is recommended the rejections be affirmed based on the prior art teachings.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen Gravini whose telephone number is 571 272 4875. The examiner can normally be reached on normal weekday business hours (east coast time).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven B. McAllister can be reached on 571 272 6785. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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SMG
December 23, 2007

/Stephen Gravini/